Claims

1. Method for routing service data of a Multicast/Broadcast Multimedia Service (MBMS) from a first network entity (120) to a second network entity (130), characterized in that said method has the steps of

defining a packet flow identifier (PFI) associated to at least one MBMS or a group of terminals (804),

creating a packet flow context (PFC) for said MBMS or group of terminals identified by said packet flow identifier (806),

transferring the service data of the MBMS over a Gb interface by utilizing said PFC (812).

2. The method of claim 1, characterized in that it further comprises a step wherein the PFC is mapped to an appropriate logical channel indicated by a service announcement of the MBMS (808).

3. The method of claim 1, characterized in that it further comprises a step, wherein the first network entity performs flow control of the service data of the MBMS on PFC and Base Station System General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) Protocol (BSSGP) Virtual Connection (BVC) levels (810).

4. The method of claim 3, characterized in that said flow control is additionally performed on a level (704) located between said PFC and BVC levels, said level (704) comprising at least one block (708) whereto at least one PFC is logically connected.

5. The method of claim 1, characterized in that terminals in said group of terminals belong to a same multicast group.

6. The method of claim 1, characterized in that terminals in said group of terminals receive data from at least one common source.

7. The method of claim 1, characterized in that said creation of the PFC comprises a step wherein a PFC request (504) is transmitted to a network entity (130) performing said creation.

8. The method of claim 3, characterized in that at least part of plural flow control parameters are received from a Base Station Subsystem (BSS) or Gateway GPRS Support Node (GGSN).

9. The method of claim 1, characterised in that transferred data of the MBMS is identified by said second network entity (130) on the basis of said PFI.

10. System comprising a Gb interface between a first network entity (120) and a second network entity (130), characterized in that in order to route service data of a Multicast/Broadcast Multimedia Service (MBMS) over said Gb interface said first network entity (120) and said second network entity (130) are arranged to negotiate a common packet flow identifier (PFI) for said MBMS or a group of terminals and said second network element (130) is arranged to create a packet flow context (PFC) for said MBMS or group of terminals.

11. The system of claim 10, characterized in that said system is arranged to perform flow control of said service data of said MBMS at least on PFC and Base Station System General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) Protocol (BSSGP) Virtual Connection (BVC) levels (702, 706) prior to transmission over the Gb interface.

12. The system of claim 11, characterized in that said flow control further comprises a level (704) located between said PFC (702) and BVC (706) levels, said level (704) comprising at least one block (708) whereto at least one PFC is logically connected.

13. The system of claim 10, characterized in that said first network entity (120) is substantially a Serving GPRS Support Node and said second network entity is substantially a GSM/EDGE Radio Access Network (130) (GERAN).

14. The system of claim 10, characterized in that said first network entity (120) is arranged to request said creation of the PFC.

15. The system of claim 10, characterized in that it is arranged to map the PFC to an appropriate logical channel indicated by an MBMS service announcement.

16. The system of claim 10, characterized in that terminals in said group of terminals belong to a same multicast group.

17. A device functionally connected to a Gb interface, characterized in that in order to route service data of a Multicast/Broadcast Multimedia Service (MBMS)

data over the Gb interface it is arranged to define a packet flow identifier (PFI) associated to at least one MBMS service or a group of terminals, to create a packet flow context (PFC) for said MBMS service or group of terminals identified by said packet flow identifier, and to transfer the service data of the MBMS over the Gb interface by utilizing said packet flow context.